

Born and raised in Chula Vista, Mark has been making a living selling his western art for 20 years. Described as his generation's Olaf Wieghorst, San Diego's most recognized western artist, Mark is represented in art galleries all over California, Arizona, New Mexico and Indiana.

A few years ago, Mark presented the Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps, General Charles Krulak, with a bronze sculpture he created of Lt. Gen. Chesty Puller, a hero and legend to all Marines. General Krulak was deeply impressed with Mark's work and clearly moved. Just as impressed was President Bush when, earlier this year, Mark and I went to the White House to give the President a bronze he created titled "Texas Skip."

As plans for the new fire station were finalized, it was determined that the facility must include some type of public art. Mark was a natural choice, and he has not disappointed. His first life-size sculpture, weighing 700 pounds and depicting a veteran firefighter with his hand on the shoulder of a kneeling rookie, required 15-hour work days for three months. The piece will stand on a pedestal in front of the firehouse with water falling from the fireman's hose.

In 1985, President Reagan told recipients of the National Medal of Arts that, "Where there's liberty, art succeeds." This couldn't be more true. Generations of San Diegans will have the opportunity to admire Mark's work and reflect both upon the sacrifices and the privilege of living in our great nation. Thank you Mark for using your talents to remind us about what is important.

IN HONOR OF MARIA TORRES-GIL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Maria Torres-Gil on the occasion of her 80th birthday. She is a life-long resident of Monterey County and has dedicated herself to working in and giving back to her community.

Maria Torres-Gil was born in Los Angeles; the daughter of two Mexican emigrants who had come to California in the aftermath of the Mexican Revolution. Like many other Americans during the Great Depression, Maria's family worked as itinerant farmers throughout the San Joaquin Valley before settling in Castroville in the early 1930s. She married Rafael Torres-Gil in 1947, but when he passed away at a young age, she had to raise their nine children on her own. Although she was only able to attend school through the sixth grade, all of her children went on to college and successful careers.

Despite these hardships, Maria remained active in her community. She organized the first advisory committee for the Monterey County Housing authority, developed a school bus program for the children living in housing projects who lacked transportation to school, and also served as a vocal advocate for families in the housing project. In addition to working on local issues, Maria volunteered to serve as a translator for the Monterey County Department of Social Services. She was hired as an eligibility worker and served with the Department for many years. After retiring she

was a featured columnist for the Salinas based Californian newspaper, in which she focused on parenting issues and community service.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Maria Torres-Gil's achievements and accomplishments. She has demonstrated outstanding dedication to her community and family. Maria has made a lasting impact on our community and the people with whom she worked. I join the County of Monterey, and friends and family in honoring this truly commendable woman and all of her lifelong achievements.

TRIBUTE TO MR. IRA CLARK: A
DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of our community's most remarkable public servants, Mr. Ira Clark, former President of our County Public Health Trust and Chief Executive Officer of Miami-Jackson Health System. His friends and supporters will honor him this Friday, September 12, 2003 at a special benefit dinner at the Hotel Intercontinental in Miami.

This event will recognize Mr. Clark for 16 years of exceptional service to the residents of our community, particularly the countless indigents and immigrants. Having dedicated the longevity of his stewardship over our county Jackson Memorial Hospital, he has been relentless in his development of innovative healthcare service programs that now respond to the crying needs of our community. His was indeed a mission of genuine love and utmost commitment that maximized thorough understanding and common-sense compassion for many destitute families who lack the basic financial wherewithal to have a loved one access quality medical care and treatment in a modern urban hospital setting.

Under his leadership many lives have been saved and many more families have been rendered whole because of his dedication to providing accessibility to affordable quality healthcare services. One of the most impressive achievements under his watch was the acquisition of a predictable source of recurrent funding when the residents of Miami-Dade County voted in 1991 to have an extra half-penny sales tax to fund Jackson Memorial Hospital. An essential component of this securely funded system was his ability to create a partnership with the University of Miami School of Medicine, which now provides the expertise of this medical center to spread worldwide in specialties like trauma care, organ transplant, spinal cord injury, pediatrics, high-risk obstetrics and a host of quality healthcare innovations.

Other highlights of his tenure contributed to the decompression of the county hospital facility through the creation of the Jackson North Maternity Center, the Taylor Breast Health Center, the Diagnostic Treatment Center, the state of the art Ryder Trauma Center and the recent opening of Jackson South Community Hospital to benefit the residents living in the South Dade area. The event this Friday will raise funds to help build a state-of-the-art Rehabilitation Facility at this premiere hospital.

These facilities are eloquent testimonies to Mr. Clark's mission to provide a single high standard of medical care to all people. This sterling commitment has raised the bar of quality healthcare for the vibrant community of Miami-Dade County, which uniquely symbolizes a virtual mosaic of immigrants representing virtually every country of the world.

It is his vision that spearheaded the introduction of the Jackson Health System corporate identity in the Spring of 2000, which led to the creation of a network of some 12 primary care centers across the county. The role he played in developing our excellent healthcare system evokes a unique passion that led to our community's ability to receive the recognition of its strength amidst its diversity, and help the less fortunate in their quest for quality medical care and treatment.

Indeed, it is an honor to have the privilege of the friendship of Mr. Ira Clark, a caring public servant par excellence. The tribute he will receive on Friday is genuinely deserved. I salute him on behalf of a grateful community that he truly loved and cared for so deeply.

THE TIES THAT BIND

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to submit for the RECORD a speech delivered by Ambassador Joseph Verner Reed, Under Secretary General of the United Nations and a distinguished resident of Greenwich, Connecticut. Ambassador Reed's remarks were made at a ceremony at the Greenwich Town Hall commemorating Bastille Day on July 14, 2003.

THE TIES THAT BIND

Citizens of the Town of Greenwich and the French Community of our Town are thankful to be commemorating a date that is both significant and symbolic in the shaping of our two countries.

Allow me to paraphrase a few words spoken by President George W. Bush on May 30, 2003, during an interview with a French journalist. France and the United States share the same objectives on all vital subjects. Regarding security in our democracies, peace in the world and international commerce, we are largely in agreement. President Bush was echoing those famous words from President Franklin D. Roosevelt: "no two nations are more closely bound by the ties of history and mutual friendship than the people of France and that of the United States of America."

On July 4, 2003 citizens of France deposited a red rose on each of the 60,511 graves in honor of the American soldiers buried in eleven cemeteries, who died in France during World War I and II for the preservation of French freedom.

We celebrate the sovereignty and dignity of our two nations with our respective national anthems.

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof thru the night that our flag was still there.

Oh, say, does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

LA MARSEILLAISE

Allons enfants de la Patrie

Le jour de gloire est arrivé!

Contre nous de la tyrannie

L'étendard sanglant est levé! (bis)

Entendez-vous dans les campagnes

Mugir ces féroces soldats?

Ils viennent jusque dans nos bras

Egorger nos fils et nos compagnes.

Aux armes, citoyens, formez vos bataillons!

Marchons! Marchons!

Qu'un sang impur abreuve nos sillons!

In a similar spirit, before the flags of our two nations are raised, let us observe a minute of silence in memory of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in support of freedom and democracy wherever they may have been.

Historically, both diplomatically and artistically, the United States and France have been bound. From colonialism and nascent nation status, through peace and conflict, this tandem of nations has relied on one another even during the times where they may not have been on the same page. Our Nations have formed an inextricable bond of liberty, full of the implications that such a condition would warrant: strength, determination and solidarity. My hope is to return to full and fruitful mutual respect.

IN MEMORY OF JAMES H.
GILLIAM, JR.

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise to pay tribute to James H. Gilliam Jr. who passed away suddenly last week at the age of 58 after decades of outstanding service to the State of Delaware. Jim was a loving father, husband, and son, as well as a corporate attorney and investor, civic and business leader, philanthropist, and the first black Cabinet secretary in Delaware's history. The numerous accomplishments, recognitions, and admiration Jim has had in his lifetime are truly remarkable.

Until 1998 Jim was the Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Beneficial Corporation and a member of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of Beneficial, as well as Chairman of its commercial banking subsidiary, Beneficial National Bank. Before joining Beneficial in 1979, Jim served as Secretary of Community Affairs and Economic Development in the Cabinet of Governor Pete du Pont. Prior to that post he was an attorney with the law firms of Richards, Layton & Finger in Wilmington, Delaware and Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York City. A graduate of Morgan State University, Columbia University School of Law, and the Advanced Management Program of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Jim also received Honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from Morgan State University and Delaware State University.

Serving as a board member and trustee for numerous corporations and foundations, Jim was a board member of the Delaware Community Foundation, a Trustee of Christiana Care Corporation, and Founding Chairman of Wilmington 2000, established to assist in rede-

velopment of the City of Wilmington. He was also Chair of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce, the United Negro College Fund Delaware Campaign, the Capital Campaign for the Chesapeake Bay Girl Scouts Council, and the Walnut Street YMCA in Wilmington, among many others.

Jim also gave back greatly to the legal profession as a member of the American Bar Foundation, as Chair of the Governor's Judicial Nominating Commission in Delaware, and as Secretary of the Board of Bar Examiners for Delaware.

Jim received many awards that further point to his commitment to a life of service to his community. He was awarded the Helping Hand Award by the Delaware Chapter of the NAACP for his efforts to promote diversity in the legal community, as well as the Wilmington Branch NAACP Award for Advocacy in the Education and Civil Rights Arena for Over 25 Years. Jim was also named Outstanding Young Man of the year by the Wilmington and Delaware Jaycees and received the National Conference for Community and Justice/Delaware Region Brotherhood-Sisterhood Award for Leadership and Service toward building a just and inclusive community.

I rise today to praise and honor James H. Gilliam Jr. for his contributions to the State of Delaware and its citizens. His achievements speak to the immense mark he has left on the community. His peers have described him as a great leader, a "giant" of the community, his friends speak of his loyalty, and his daughters speak of his encouragement and unconditional love. Delaware will remember James H. Gilliam Jr. for his great leadership and constant striving to do more for more people.

CARE FOR VETERANS OR TAKE THEIR PLACE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, one of my leading constituents, former Blount County Executive Bob Davis, recently sent me an editorial from the Daily Times of Blount County, Tennessee.

This editorial concerns the medical treatment given to our Nation's veterans who are not high profile celebrities.

This editorial expresses my views 100 percent.

Another Daily Times editorial concerning Free Trade and Fair Trade also expresses my views. I am sick and tired of seeing so many American jobs go to other countries.

We need to start putting our own citizens first once again or we are going to have some real problems in this Nation.

I want to commend the outstanding Editor of the Daily Times, Dean Stone, for these patriotic, common-sense, well-written editorials and would like to call them to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

TIME FOR CONGRESS TO CARE FOR VETERANS OR TAKE THEIR PLACE!

If our nation expects its healthy citizens in military service to serve and fight on the missions on which they are sent around the world, it is high time we decide to support these veterans who serve.

There may be some question about providing health care for health problems that are not service related but the least we can do is provide prompt and adequate care for wounds and injuries received on active duty.

And this should not be reserved for military personnel such as former prisoner of war Pfc. Jessica Lynch who because of her high-profile situation was given all the medical care anyone could use. And we don't need a double standard for enlisted personnel or officers either. All who serve are human beings, individuals created equal in God's sight and deserving the same medical care for their wounds or injuries.

Army Sgt. Vanessa Tuner, a six-year Army veteran who survived a still-unknown illness doctors feared would kill her, is finding it even tougher after a military flight brought her to her mother's home in Boston's Roxbury neighborhood last month. She had experienced hospital stays in Germany and Washington, D.C.

Despite severe nerve damage in her right leg, she was told it would be mid-October before a doctor at the local Veterans Affairs hospital could see her.

She sought help from Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., and eventually got an appointment scheduled this week but the experience has been frustrating.

Veterans advocates said Turner's frustration is not unusual. More than 100,000 veterans are waiting six months or more for their initial visit with a VA doctor or to see a specialist, the Veterans' Administration acknowledges.

Our nation ignored the complaints of health damage from Agent Orange in the Vietnam War for a couple of decades and we waited almost a decade after Gulf War I to acknowledge there might be something to the many health complaints resulting from that war.

There might be some excuse for those delays of what seemed to be unusual illnesses. However, the majority of individuals who have served in the armed forces are not deadbeats looking for a handout in the form of health care. They have illnesses. They have wounds.

Many have delayed their civilian careers in order to serve our nation. They have postponed their education and preparing for their profession because they felt obligated to defend our nation and the freedoms that all of us treasure.

If you have not put your life on the line in behalf of your country, it is difficult to fully appreciate the awesome responsibility that it is for both you as an individual and your family members. American lives are not trash to be thrown away and should not be considered as such.

Some of our members of Congress, such as Rep. John J. "Jimmy" Duncan, have worked to help veterans and succeeded in getting a new hospital to be built in this area. However, many of these veterans could be treated by doctors as outpatients while living at home if there were an adequate number of doctors.

It is time members of both the House and Senate decide to provide reasonable medical care for members of the armed forces injured or wounded while on duty or let all of our people in service return to civilian life.

But don't count on getting enough volunteers to replace even a company of them from the House or Senate. Too many of these folks are too busy running for the next higher office, better paying job or feathering their nest to see that veterans receive adequate health care.

WE NEED TO FORGET "FREE" TRADE, MOVE TOWARD "FAIR" TRADE

Jobs are going . . . going . . . gone—almost like the chant of a tobacco auctioneer except it has a much more devastating effect.